



1 ~~Old Emma~~ (Die 5B)

2 Library

CITY OF WINCHESTER



ANNUAL REPORT

on the

HEALTH of the CITY

FOR THE YEAR 1953.

by

ROBT. A. GOOD

M.B., B.Ch., D.P.H., L.M.

Medical Officer of Health, Etc.



*With the
Compliments of the
Medical Officer of Health*

*No Square,
Manchester.*

CITY OF WINCHESTER

ANNUAL REPORT

on the

HEALTH of the CITY

FOR THE YEAR 1953.

by

ROBT. A. GOOD

M.B., B.Ch., D.P.H., L.M.

Medical Officer of Health, Etc.

Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2018 with funding from
Wellcome Library

<https://archive.org/details/b30282561>

CONTENTS

Ambulance	11
Births	7,8
Clinic and Treatment Centres	12
Deaths	7-10
Factories and Workshops	30,31
Food	22-29
Hospitals	12
Housing	13-18
Infant Mortality	7,8, 9
Immunisation	38
Infectious Diseases.....	20,35, 36
Laboratory facilities	11
Meteorology	39
Milk	29,30
Public Health Officers	11
Report of Sanitary Inspector	13-35
Rodent Control	32-34
Social Conditions of Area	6
Tuberculosis	37, 38
Vital Statistics	7-10
Water Supply	21, 22

Public Health Department,
4 - 6 The Square,
Winchester.

July 1954.

To The Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the City of
Winchester.

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is my pleasant duty to present the 79th Annual Report on the state of the public health in the City and the sanitary circumstances of the area during the year 1953. It is noteworthy that high standards appertaining in previous years continue to be maintained and that no major outbreaks of disease have been recorded in the year under review.

The population of the City according to the mid-year estimate of the Registrar General was 26,300 and shows an increase of approximately 500 over the estimate for that of the previous year.

The downward trend of the Birth Rate at 15.36 per thousand live births continues, but this figure compares not unfavourable with that of the national rate.

The Infant Mortality rate at 13.4 per thousand live births shows a slight increase over the record figure of 10.6 per thousand live births the previous year. However, as on that occasion it was necessary to recall, when dealing with a small population, that figures, expressed as rates, may be misleading. This fact is well borne out by comparing the two years when the rate had increased by 2.8 per thousand live births, whereas in actual fact the number of infant deaths has been only one greater, namely, five instead of four. Three of these deaths were attributable to congenital abnormalities, and one to prematurity. Four of the deaths took place during the first four weeks of life. The Still Birth Rate of 0.42 per thousand of the home population shows an increase on the previous year but approximates closer to the national figure.

The Death Rate for the City of 10.50 per thousand of the estimated population remains almost static and compares favourably with the rate for the country as a whole. A total of 300 deaths was registered during the year, comprising of 144 males and 156 females, and only 23 deaths took place under the age of 45 years. Coronary disease and other associated heart conditions accounted for the highest mortality. Tuberculosis, including both pulmonary and non-pulmonary forms, was accountable for four deaths, whilst cancer in all its forms was responsible for 36 deaths. It is gratifying to note that there has been a big decrease in the number of deaths from cancer namely 36 compared with 65 in the previous year. No maternal death was reported in the City.

During the year under review it is a matter for regret that owing to pressure of work in other districts in the County it was not possible for the Mobile X-Ray Unit to visit the City. However, a visit was made early in the current year and detailed figures with the results will, it is hoped, be included in the next annual report. Meanwhile it is encouraging to be able to report that attendances by the public during the recent visit were greater than on any previous visit by the mobile unit.

Notifications of infectious disease indicate a very substantial increase. This increase is mainly accounted for by the increased incidence of measles. Notification of this disease having risen from 51 in 1952 to 425 in the year under review. The biennial trend of this disease was referred to in previous reports, and as 1953 might be termed an epidemic year the number of notifications are only what might have been anticipated. Food poisoning accounts for the major bulk of the remaining notifications and all of these with one exception were attributable to a single outbreak in a public institution. The outbreak which was of a mild nature was believed to be of *Clostridium Welchii* origin and was quelled without resulting in any serious consequences. The notifications of both whooping cough and poliomyelitis show a decrease but there is a slight increase in the number of cases notified of puerperal pyrexia and ophthalmia of the newly born. No case of diphtheria has been reported in the area. The number of cases of pulmonary and non-pulmonary tuberculosis shows a considerable reduction, namely 26 cases compared with 42 in the previous year.

Full details of the progress being made in dealing with unfit housing as well as information concerning the action taken under the Food and Drugs Acts are contained in Section D, Part 1. This section of the report has been prepared by the Chief Sanitary Inspector. During the year 26 individual unfit houses were demolished, considered as being unsuitable for human habitation. In addition undertakings not to relet for human habitation, in lieu of demolition orders or pending demolition, were accepted in respect of 20 dwellings. A further 19 premises in Water Lane, constituting a Clearance Area, were the subject of a Ministerial enquiry. The order was subsequently confirmed.

In conclusion, I should like to express my appreciation and thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee for their guidance and co-operation in carrying out the work of the Department. To Dr. Mackenzie, until recently Director of the Public Health Laboratory, and his staff, for their continued assistance and advice on the various and varied problems requiring the use of their services which has been so willingly given at all times, and finally to the other officers of the Corporation and the staff of the Health Department for their willing assistance.

ROBT. A. GOOD

Medical Officer of Health.

HEALTH COMMITTEE

The Mayor - Councillor R.J. Dutton.
Chairman - Councillor Neate

Alderman Sankey Councillor Mrs. Charles
Alderman Edmonds Councillor Miss Edmeades
Councillor Abraham Councillor Mrs. Lowden
Councillor Smith

A - STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area of the Borough 3,888 acres

Population Census 1931 - 23,523
Census 1951 - (Preliminary Report)
25,710
Registrar General's Estimate of Home
Population mid - 1953 - 26,300

Number of Inhabited Houses (On 31st March 1954 from figures supplied
by the City Treasurer) - 7,377

Rateable Value at 1st April 1953 £285,471

Net penny rate product 1953-54 £1,167. 2s. 10d.

Social Conditions There are no special industries in the
City in the ordinary acceptance of the
term. It is estimated that there are
276 premises that come within the
definition of "factory" in the City.

Unemployed I am indebted to the Manager of the
Ministry of Labour Employment Exchange
for Winchester for information relating
to unemployment.

Unemployment registered in the first week in January :-

Year	Men	Women	Total
1945	2	1	3
1946	3	1	4
1947	17	4	21
1948	41	13	54
1949	41	33	74
1950	62	38	100
1951	51	22	73
1952	47	42	89
1953	91	60	151
1954	64	48	112

B - SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR

Live Births

	Total	Male	Female
Total Registered	364	200	164
Legitimate	342	189	153
Illegitimate	22	11	11

Still Births

Total Registered	11	3	8
Legitimate	10	3	7
Illegitimate	1	-	1

Deaths

Total Registered	300	144	156
------------------	-----	-----	-----

Maternal Mortality

Deaths from puerperal causes -

puerperal sepsis	-	-	-
other puerperal causes	-	-	-
Total	-	-	-

Infant Mortality

Deaths of infants under one year of age -

Total Registered	5	2	3
Legitimate	5	2	3
Illegitimate	-	-	-

Deaths from Special Causes

Total Registered	65	35	30
Tuberculosis	4	2	2
Pulmonary	3	2	1
Non-pulmonary	1	-	1
Cancer	36	19	17
Pneumonia	15	12	3
Influenza	10	2	8
Whooping Cough	-	-	-
Measles	-	-	-
Diphtheria	-	-	-
Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	-	-	-

Birth Rate

Winchester
Comparative
Statistics
(where available)
England and Wales

per 1,000 estimated home
population mid 1953
(corrected)

15.36

15.5

<u>Still Birth Rate</u>	Winchester	Comparative Statistics (where available) England and Wales
per 1,000 total home population	0.42	0.35
<u>Death Rate</u>		
per 1,000 estimated average home population mid - 1953 (corrected)	10.50	11.4
<u>Maternal Mortality Rate</u>		
per 1,000 total (live and still) births -		
Sepsis of pregnancy, childbirth and the puerperium	0.00	0.10
Abortion with toxæmia	0.00	0.01
Other toxæmias of pregnancy and the puerperium	0.00	0.24
Haemorrhage of pregnancy and childbirth	0.00	0.13
Abortion without mention of sepsis or toxæmia	0.00	0.04
Abortion with sepsis	0.00	0.06
Other complications of pregnancy, childbirth and the puerperium	0.00	0.18
<u>Death Rate</u>		
of infants under one year of age -		
All infants per 1,000 live births	13.7	26.8
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	14.62	----
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	0.0	---
<u>Death Rate per 1,000 estimate home population</u>		
Tuberculosis	0.15	0.00
Cancer	1.37	---
Pneumonia	0.57	0.00
Influenza	0.38	0.00
Whooping Cough	0.00	0.00
Measles	0.00	---
Scarlet Fever	0.00	---
Diphtheria	0.00	0.00
Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	0.00	0.00

The following table gives at a glance a comparison between the chief vital statistics of Winchester and some other areas for the year 1953 :-

	Live Birth Rate. 1.	Still Birth Rate. 2.	Death Rate 3.	Deaths from Diarrhoea & Enteritis (under 2 yrs) 4.	Infant Mortality Rate under 1 yr.
Winchester U.D.	15.36	0.42	10.50	0.0	13.7
England and Wales	15.5	0.35	11.4	1.1	26.8
160 County Boroughs and Great Towns including London	17.0	0.43	12.2	1.3	30.8
160 Smaller Towns (resident population 25,000 - 50,000 at 1951 census)	15.7	0.34	11.3	0.9	24.3
London Adm. County	17.5	0.38	12.5	1.1	24.8

NOTE - 1, 2 and 3 are expressed as the rate per 1,000 of the population. 4 and 5 are expressed as the rate per 1,000 live births.

INFANT MORTALITY

Nett Deaths from stated causes at various ages under 1 year in 1953

Causes of Death	Under 1 week	1-2 weeks	2-3 weeks	3-4 weeks	Total under 4 weeks	4 weeks and under 3 mths	3 - 6 months	6-9 months	9-12 months	Total 4 wks to 1 year	TOTAL		Total
											Male	Female	
Congenital Mal- formations	2				2			1		1	2	1	3
Prematurity	1				1							1	1
Other Causes		1			1							1	1
	3	1	-	-	4	-	-	1	-	1	2	3	5

Table of Causes of and Ages at Death during the year 1953

Causes of Death		Nett Deaths at the specified ages of Residents whether occurring within or without the district.															TOTALS	
		Total all Ages	Under 1 Year	1 to 2	2 to 3	3 to 4	4 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 35	35 to 45	45 to 65	65 and over	Male	Fem.		
1	Tuberculosis, Respiratory	3									1	1	1	1	2	1		
2	Tuberculosis, Other	1							1							1		
3	Syphilitic Disease	—														—		
4	Diphtheria	—														—		
5	Whooping Cough	—														—		
6	Meningococcal Infections	—														—		
7	Acute Poliomyelitis	—														—		
8	Measles	—														—		
9	Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases	—														—		
10	Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	5														—		
11	Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus	7														—		
12	Malignant Neoplasm, Breast	2														—		
13	Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus	2														—		
14	Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms	20														—		
15	Leukæmia, Aleukæmia	3														—		
16	Diabetes	4														—		
17	Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	42														—		
18	Coronary Disease, Angina	41														—		
19	Hypertension with Heart Disease	7														—		
20	Other Heart Disease	55	1								1	6	47	23	32			
21	Other Circulatory Disease	17										2	15	8	9			
22	Influenza	10										1	9	2	8			
23	Pneumonia	15	1									3	11	12	3			
24	Bronchitis	14										2	12	10	4			
25	Other Diseases of Respiratory System	2										1	1	2	—			
26	Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum	3										2	1	3	—			
27	Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea	1											1	1	—			
28	Nephritis and Nephrosis	1											1	1	—			
29	Hyperplasia of Prostate	—														—		
30	Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion	—														—		
31	Congenital Malformations	5	3													—		
32	Other Defined and Ill-defined Diseases	31	2	1				1			1	1	3	22	11	20		
33	Motor Vehicle Accidents	1									1					—		
34	All Other Accidents	4							1	1	1			1	3	1		
35	Suicide	3											2	1	2	1		
36	Homicide and Operations of War	1											1		—	1		
		300	5	3	—	—	—	1	1	2	5	5	56	222	144	156		

C - GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE AUTHORITY

Medical Officer of Health

ROBT. A. GOOD, M.B., B.CH., D.P.H., L.M.

Veterinary Surgeon

J.B. TUTT, F.R.C.V.S.

Chief Sanitary Inspector

E. SEYMOUR, A.M.I.S.E., M.R. San.I. (Certified Meat and Food Inspector)

Additional Sanitary Inspectors

C. BENNETT, Cert.R.San.I. (Certified Meat and Food Inspector)

W. KERLEY, A.M.R. San. I. (Certified Meat and Food Inspector) (From 2. 2. 53)

Rodent Officers

V. KEBBY

J. PARSONS

Chief Clerk

MRS. J. RICHARDS

HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL NURSING STAFF

Health Visitors

MISS M. FORRESTER, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.

MRS. A. NOBLE, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.

MISS B. WATSON, S.R.C.N., S.C.M., H.V.

Midwives

MRS. H. OLIVER, S.C.M.

MRS. E.B. SANDYS, S.R.N., S.C.M.

General Nurses

MRS. S.J. McCOURT, S.R.N., S.C.M., Q.N.

MISS R.E. DABNER, S.R.N., S.C.M., Q.N.

MISS E. HUGHES, S.R.N., S.C.M., Q.N.

MISS B. MULLEE, S.R.N., Q.N.

LABORATORY FACILITIES

All bacteriological investigation in connection with the work of the Department is carried out by the Public Health Laboratory Service.

HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Ambulance Service

An Ambulance Service is administered by the Hampshire County Council

Clinic and Treatment Centres

- (a) INFANT WELFARE CENTRE. Wednesday and Friday in each week, 2 p.m. at the Health Department.
- (b) INFANT WELFARE CENTRE. Each Tuesday 2 p.m. at the Stanmore Day Nursery.
- (c) SCHOOL CLINIC. Daily, 9 -- 10.30 a.m. at the Health Department.
- (d) ORTHOPAEDIC CLINIC. The fourth Friday odd months at 1.30 p.m. at the County Health Department, The Castle.
- (e) SPEECH CLINIC. Monday and Friday each week by appointment, at the County Health Department, The Castle.

REGIONAL HOSPITAL BOARD

(a) ORTHOPAEDIC CLINIC

- (i) Major: The first Friday each month by appointment, at the Royal Hampshire County Hospital.
- (ii) Remedial: By appointment, at the Royal Hampshire County Hospital

(b) EYE CLINIC

Winchester City cases twice per month, by appointment, at the County Health Department, The Castle.

(c) ORTHOPTIC CLINIC. By appointment, at the Royal Hampshire County Hospital.

Clinics for the inoculation of school and pre-school children against Diphtheria were held on the third Tuesday in each month at the Health Department.

HOSPITALS

- (i) St. Paul's Hospital (chronic sick) 227 beds.
- (ii) Victoria Isolation Hospital (infectious disease) 36 beds.
- (iii) Royal Hants. County Hospital -
Medical, Surgical and Children, 271 beds.
Maternity, 40 beds.

by E. SEYMOUR A.M.I.S.E., M.R. San.I.

Chief Sanitary Inspector

Administrative Action taken in connection with Housing and General Sanitation for the year ended 31st December 1953.

In place of Mr. F.G.S. Hill, who had obtained a post with another Authority, Mr. W. Kerley joined the staff as an additional Sanitary Inspector on February 2nd 1953, having previously served in a similar capacity with the Leicester C. B.

The duties of the sanitary inspectors embrace a wide field of statutory and byelaw responsibilities but in view of the limited staff resources, it continues to be necessary to concentrate upon those duties which demand urgent attention, with a consequential reduction of inspections of a routine nature.

In pursuance of a general policy of progressive clearance of slum areas, a public inquiry was held during the year in connection with three small clearance areas in Water Lane. An Inspector from the Ministry of Housing and Local Government visited and inspected these areas which were subsequently confirmed by the Minister as represented. The statutory procedure in these cases gave rise to a vast amount of work in connection with inspection of premises, preparation of reports and technical details.

There are still in other parts of the City a number of houses which, because of their age, construction and extent to which for several reasons they have been allowed to fall into disrepair, fall very short of modern housing standards and will constitute a problem for many years to come.

The arrangement whereby plans of new work concerning factories and shops which have been submitted to the City Engineer's Office are forwarded to this department for comment continues to prove very useful. The system enables a check to be kept on new work and ensures, for example, that new conveniences in factories and other premises are designed to comply with the Sanitary Accommodation Regulations, and that work in food premises conforms to the provisions of the Food and Drugs Acts.

Inspection of Food premises received much attention and many improvements were secured during the year. The increasing and valuable interest taken by various organisations on the subject of environmental hygiene was demonstrated by the requests for lectures, talks, etc.

Housing Disrepair

More than 550 inspections and subsequent visits were made during the year in reporting defects, inspecting work in progress and dealing with instances of default leading to statutory procedure under the Public Health Act. These provisions are applied reasonably, with due regard to the type and age of the property concerned and ensure at least that the houses are made weather tight and reasonably habitable, although the standards achieved do not in all cases result in the houses being made in all respects

"fit for human habitation". It is also quite feasible that the number of complaints received by the department are related to the greatly increased cost of repairs and the resultant tendency of many owners to defer preventive work and to carry out the minimum of essential repairs, and these only where statutory notices have been served and legal proceedings have been instituted or are known to be imminent.

It is also evident that in many instances the ownership of old property is no longer profitable and certain owners have indicated their desire to get rid of the decayed houses which have now become a liability. Indeed there can be little doubt that resumption of clearance action is welcomed by such owners, who make it clear that they are anxious to relinquish their old property. In other cases houses have been sold to sitting tenants who thus find themselves with a heavy burden of having to meet repair costs.

I - Inspection of Dwelling Houses during the year.

1.	(a)	Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts	318
	(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	760
2.	(a)	Number of dwelling houses (included under the sub-heading (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932	9
	(b)	Number of inspections for the purpose	11
3.		Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	52
4.		Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	257

II - Remedy of Defects during the year without service of Formal Notice

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	318
---	-----

III - Action under Statutory Powers during the year

(a)	Proceedings under Sections, 9,10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936.	
1.	No. of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	22
2.	No. of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices	
	a. By Owners	22
	b. By Local Authority in default of Owners	Nil

(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts.

1. No. of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied 291
2. No. of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices.
 - a. By Owners 35
 - b. By Local Authority in default of Owners Nil

Slum Clearance

Individual Unfit Houses

Details of action taken in connection with unfit houses, etc.

(a) Houses demolished during the year following formal action :-

12 Magdalen Hill	53 Upper Brook Street
15 Lawn Street	55 Upper Brook Street
52 Chesil Street	10 St. Peter Street
49 Upper Brook Street	119 Upper Brook Street (Bungalow at rear)
51 Upper Brook Street	17 Houses at Upper Wolvesey Terrace which had been acquired by the Corporation for redevelopment purposes were also demolished.

(b) Undertakings not to re-let for human habitation in lieu of Demolition Orders or pending demolition were accepted in respect of the following:-

36 Wharf Hill	18 Swan Lane
37 Wharf Hill	31 St. John Street
39 Wharf Hill	13 Bridge Street
40 Wharf Hill	3 Staple Gardens
55 Wharf Hill	62 Chesil Street
24 Hyde Close	52 North Walls
3 Cossack Lane	53 North Walls
4 Cossack Lane	55 North Walls
39 Eastgate Street	56 North Walls
3 Hyde Church Path	57 North Walls

(c) Deferred Demolition Orders in respect of houses occupied by aged people and problem families or due to existence of re-housing difficulties :-

37 Colebrook Street	5 Cossack Lane
38 Colebrook Street	22 Lower Brook Street
39 Colebrook Street	24 Upper Brook Street
40 Colebrook Street	58 Sussex Street
54 North Walls	60 Sussex Street

(d) Undertakings cancelled.

Undertakings which were cancelled on completion of works which rendered the premises reasonably fit for human habitation:-

63 Canon Street	79 Alresford Road (reconstructed)
-----------------	-----------------------------------

(e) Rooms closed on undertaking or Closing Order :-

63 Canon Street

80 North Walls (Top flat)

(f) Unfit houses and other buildings in the Water Lane Clearance Area, which were the subject of a Ministry Inquiry or Compulsory Purchase Order.

x	2 Water Lane	22 Water Lane
x	4 Water Lane	24 Water Lane
x	6 Water Lane	26 Water Lane
x	8 Water Lane	28 Water Lane
	10 Water Lane	30 Water Lane
	12 Water Lane	32 Water Lane
	14 Water Lane	34 Water Lane
x	16 Water Lane	36 Water Lane
	18 Water Lane	+ 38 Water Lane
	20 Water Lane	

x Warehouses

+ Combined dwelling house and shop

IV - Housing Act, 1936, (Part IV), Overcrowding

As a result of complaints received relative to overcrowding, 75 houses were inspected with the following results:-

Number of houses overcrowded	7
Number of houses with sub-tenants living under overcrowded conditions	8
Number of houses not overcrowded	60
Number of houses with occupants living in underground rooms	2

In nearly every case the overcrowding or unsatisfactory conditions was abated by rehousing the occupants in more suitable premises.

Housing Progress

Number of New Houses built during 1953 :-

(i) By Local Authority -

a. Permanent Houses 152

b. Prefabricated Houses --

(ii) By Private Enterprise 39

(iii) Total number of houses and flats owned by the Local Authority at 31st December 1953 2138

Complaints

The number of complaints received during the year in connection with housing totalled 291, only 13 less than the preceeding year. This figure would

have been considerably higher but for the constant supervision of the Sanitary Inspectors which resulted in many houses being maintained in a habitable condition which would otherwise have deteriorated rapidly. The response of the owners continues to be fairly good, Informal Notices usually being complied with, rendering Statutory action unnecessary.

Summary of complaints received and improvement effected at dwelling houses during the year :-

	1953	1952
Defective and leaking roofs repaired	31	41
Roof valley gutters repaired	9	18
Rainwater gutters repaired or renewed	33	24
Choked gutters remedied	8	10
Chimney pots repaired or renewed	5	8
Chimney stacks re-pointed	29	20
Chimney breasts repaired	6	10
Chimney flues repaired	1	2
Curtilage walls repaired	4	6
General structural repairs	57	42
Yard surfaces repaired	3	2
External steps repaired	3	3
External plaster repaired	7	5
Covers provided to cellar areas	1	2
External Soffit boards repaired	10	9
Leaking skylights repaired	6	6
Staircases repaired	19	21
Windows made to open	8	5
Glazing renewed	5	11
Window putty repaired	39	36
Window parting bead renewed	8	9
Glazing bars provided	5	4
Woodwork to windows repaired	31	20
Sashcords renewed	25	23
Floors repaired	15	31
Dry rot in floors remedied	9	14
Wall plaster and ceilings repaired	40	63
Walls cleansed	5	4
Ceilings cleansed.....	12	27
Walls re-pointed and repaired	11	15
Doors repaired	6	10
Door locks repaired	4	5
Door handles repaired	2	5
Firegrates repaired or renewed	5	6
Ranges repaired or renewed	5	8
Firebacks repaired or renewed	2	11
Firebaskets provided	3	1
Coppers repaired	4	6
Plastering to fireplaces repaired	9	6
Water service pipes repaired	10	5
Premises cleansed	2	1
Sinks repaired or renewed	12	18
Sink waste pipes repaired	3	8
Choked sink W.P.s remedied	7	4
Sink traps renewed	2	1

Dampness remedied :-	1953	1952
Defective D.P.C.s	14	8
Penetrating	26	30
Chimney stacks	20	21
Chimney breasts	17	11
Dormer windows (soakers and flashing)	5	8
Ceilings	8	15

Drainage :-

Vent shafts repaired	13	7
Soil pipes repaired	6	4
Drains repaired	25	19
Blockages remedied	20	22
Half channel to sink gulley repaired	4	2
Defective soakaways repaired	9	3
Wastepipes made to discharge over gulley.....	8	2
Surface gullies required	5	3

Sanitary Conveniences :-

Pans repaired or renewed	19	32
Cisterns repaired	55	61
Cisterns renewed	11	3
Provision of sufficient water supply.....	6	1
W.C. waste pipe repaired	3	2
Water connection to W.C.repaired.....	1	3
Water service pipe repaired	4	2
W.C. traps repaired	4	5
Collar to drain connection repaired	2	3
Windows repaired	9	5
Roofs repaired	22	26
Walls repaired	11	9
General structural repairs	18	12
Floors repaired	5	7
Doors repaired	3	6
Doors rehung	8	4
Door frames repaired	13	4
Thresholds repaired	1	2
General woodwork repaired	6	2
Inadequate accommodation remedied	3	4
Compartments required to be partitioned off in accordance with byelaws	1	1
Ashbins provided	28	20

SMOKE ABATEMENT

Smoke from Commercial and Business Premises

The work of the sanitary inspectors in connection with smoke abatement during 1953 was as follows :-

Total number of observations	18
Number of visits to works	29
Number of complaints of smoke dealt with	11
Number of improvements to plant	3

In addition to the chimneys about which complaints were made, the sanitary inspectors had instructions to observe any chimney which was seen to be emitting black smoke in such quantities as to be a nuisance. Supplementary to these visual observations 6 grit deposit records were taken and 29 inspections of boiler plant were made.

On each occasion when an inspector observed a chimney emitting smoke in such quantities as to be a nuisance, abatement was usually secured by means of informal notice or personal contact with the owners of the offending chimney.

Only in one or two exceptional cases have smoke offences continued for a long period and these have been reported to the Health Committee with a view to taking statutory action.

In summary, all complaints of smoke nuisance were investigated at once, routine observation was kept on chimneys throughout the City and offenders were dealt with by inspection and advice.

Domestic Smoke

The Police are responsible for this type of nuisance which usually arises from the neglectful firing of dirty domestic chimney flues. The number of such offences for the year was nine.

Common Lodging Houses

The two Common Lodging Houses were regularly inspected during the year when it was found as in past years, that one establishment was highly satisfactory, whilst the second, which is housed in an older building, required a closer supervision to ensure observation of the Byelaws which relate to overcrowding, cleanliness, washing facilities, sanitary accommodation and the prevention of the spread of infectious diseases.

Registration or renewal is conditional upon the Corporation being satisfied as to the fitness of the keeper and his deputy, that the premises are suitable for use, that the sanitation and water supply are satisfactory, and that in other respects, including means of escape in case of fire, the premises are suitably equipped for use as a common lodging house.

During the year four informal notices were served on the registered keepers in respect of dirty floors and windows, dirty conditions of walls, ceilings, staircases, landings, common kitchens and wash-houses.

The two Common Lodging Houses provide accommodation for 51 lodgers (46 males and five females).

There is also a well conducted Youth Hostel (City Mill) which during the twelve months under review accommodated 9,626 members and provided nearly 13,000 meals. There are 70 beds and the average stay per member was one night.

The dormitories, kitchens and sanitary accommodation were regularly inspected and found satisfactory at all times. There was no case of overcrowding, food poisoning or infectious disease during the year.

Houses let in Lodgings

Houses which are let in lodgings or occupied by members of more than one family are subject to registration and inspection under the byelaws of the Corporation. Registration is necessary where there are two or more lodger families.

It is known that there are a number of such premises in the area to which the byelaws apply. Owing to the pressure of other urgent duties, however, it has not been possible during the year to carry out a projected survey to discover the existence of unregistered premises.

The main provisions of the byelaws refer to adequacy of water supply, closet accommodation, suitability of accommodation for the storage, preparation and cooking of food, prevention of and safety from fire, cleansing and redecoration of premises and the prevention of nuisances.

Land Charges Register

In connection with the sale of properties in the City area and with a view to ascertaining if there were any outstanding notices, a total of 285 searches were made by the department.

Offensive Trades

There are no offensive trades carried on within the City boundary.

Tents, Vans and Sheds

During the year Licences were granted to four applicants to stand trailer caravans on land within the City area for a period not exceeding twelve months.

Routine Inspections

Total number of Dwelling houses, Slaughterhouses, Dairies, Factories and premises under the Shops Act, etc., inspected 2,590.

Infectious Disease Investigations

Scarlet Fever	23
Poliomyelitis	1 contact

Disinfections carried out as detailed below :-

After Infectious Disease -

Rooms and Bedding	15
-------------------------	----

At Ratepayer's request -

Rooms (only)	1
--------------------	---

Bedding (only)	1
Rooms and Bedding	2

Disinfection of rooms and bedding on behalf of householders realized £2. 10s. 0d.

Water Supply

The City's water supply pumped from boreholes and wells in the chalk and distributed through iron mains on the constant system, is supplied to all the houses in the district.

Regular examinations, both bacteriological and chemical, are made of the town's water, samples being obtained to check its purity at dwelling houses, institutions and business premises etc., as routine procedure and upon complaint. The water has no plumbo solvent action and is chlorinated before being pumped through the mains.

The results are consistently good, indicating the maintenance of a high standard of purity.

No action in respect of any form of contamination was necessary during the year.

Remarks - The water is chemically and bacteriologically satisfactory for a public supply.

A typical example of the report is given below :-

PHYSICAL EXAMINATION

Temperature at source:	Not taken.	Taste:	Normal.
Colour (Hazen Units):	Nil	Smell:	Normal.
Appearance:	Clear and Bright.	Turbidity:	Nil.
Microscopical appearance: Very slight deposit of mineral and vegetable matter. No moving organisms.			

GENERAL CHEMICAL EXAMINATION

Reaction, pH:	7.2	Free Chlorine:	Nil.
Free Carbon Dioxide, as CO ₂ :	23	parts per million	
Ammoniacal Nitrogen, as N:	0.041	"	"
Albuminoid Nitrogen, as N:	0.007	"	"
Nitrous Nitrogen, as N:	0.002	"	"
Nitric Nitrogen, as N:	6.4	"	"
Hardness, as CaCO ₃ (Wanklyn's)			
Temporary:	172	"	"
Permanent:	57	"	"
Permanganate figure, as O;			
(4 hours, 80° F)	0.1	"	"

Alkalinity, as CaCO ₃ :	215	parts per million
Total solids	362.0	" " "

MINERAL ANALYSIS
in parts per million

Calcium, as Ca :	99.5	Nitrate, as NO ₃ :	28.4
Magnesium, as Mg:	3.7	Iron:	Absent
Sodium, as Na:		Lead:	Absent
Carbonate, as CO ₃ :	129	Zinc:	Absent
Chloride, as Cl :	17	Copper:	Absent
Sulphate, as SO ₄ :	12.1	Phosphate:	Absent

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION

Probable number of coliform bacilli, MacConkey 2 days, 37° C. NIL per 100 ml.

Probable number of faecal coli. NIL per 100 ml.

Remarks - The water is chemically and bacteriologically satisfactory for a public supply.

Inspection and Supervision of Food

During the year 81 samples of food were purchased and submitted for examination, of these 46 were formal samples and 35 were informal, full details being set out in the following table :-

Article	No. Examined.			No. adulterated or otherwise giving rise to irregularity			No. of Vendors Warned	Information Laid.
	F.	Inf.	Total	F.	Inf.	Total		
Soft Drinks	-	4	4	-	-	-	-	-
Meat Paste	-	3	3	-	-	-	-	-
Sponge Mixture	-	2	2	-	-	-	-	-
Buttered Sweets	8	-	8	-	-	-	-	-
Milk	18	1	19	-	1	1	Producer	-
Hot Milk	20	-	20	8	-	8	-	Legal proceedings instituted
Iced Lollies	-	24	24	-	4	4	Producer	-
Cheese Wrapper	-	1	1	-	-	-	Vendor	-
TOTALS	46	35	81	8	5	13	-	-

Of the 81 samples of food taken and submitted for analysis 13 were reported as falling short of the required standard composition, as being adulterated or giving rise to other irregularities.

Details of these irregular samples are set out in the following table :-

Serial No.	Article	Formal (F) or Informal (I)	Nature of adulteration or irregularity	Remarks
(19) 4. 6. 53.	Hot Milk	(F)	16.6% deficient in fat	Legal proceedings instituted - Conditional discharge with 30/- costs.
(20) 4. 6. 53.	Hot Milk	(F)	40.6% deficient in fat. 8.7% added water	Legal proceedings instituted - Conditional discharge with 38/- costs.
(22) 4. 6. 53	Hot Milk	(F)	20.6% deficient in fat. 17.1% added water.	Legal proceedings instituted - Conditional discharge with 30/- costs.
(23) 4. 6. 53.	Hot Milk	(F)	10% deficient in fat. 3.5% added water.	-- do --
(24) 4. 6. 53.	Hot Milk	(F)	33.3% deficient in fat.	-- do --
(37) 11. 6. 53.	Hot Milk	(F)	28.3% deficient in fat.	-- do --
(41) 11. 6. 53.	Hot Milk	(F)	20% deficient in fat.	-- do --
(42) 11. 6. 53.	Hot Milk	(F)	45% deficient in fat. 16.5% added water.	-- do --
(47) 29. 6. 53.	Milk	(I)	44% added water.	Further sample taken

Serial No.	Article	Formal (F) or Informal (I)	Nature of adulteration or irregularity	Remarks
(50) 20.8. 53.	Iced Lolly	(I)	No fat declared in list of ingredients	Further samples taken
(53) 20.8. 53	Iced Lolly	(I)	Excess of Lead	- do -
(55) 20.8. 53.	Iced Lolly	(I)	Excess of Lead	- do -
(59) 20.8. 53	Iced Lolly	(I)	Excess of Lead	- do -

The following articles of food, being unfit for human consumption, were voluntarily surrendered and destroyed where found necessary. In certain cases, on the undertaking that it would not be used for edible purposes, the food was returned to the wholesaler or the Ministry of Food and utilised in other ways.

Unsound Food, 1953

Fruit	986 tins	Turkeys	6
Soup	24 tins	Pickles	1 jar
Milk	148 tins	Sweet Corn	1 tin
Jam	111 tins	Swiss Rolls	27 pkts.
Treacle	1 tin	Biscuits	6 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs
Meat Tinned	237	Rabbits	98
Imported	166 lbs	Barley	12 tins
Vegetables	135 tins	Milk whipping compound	117 cartons
Chicken	1	Cake	102 lbs
Sausages	96 lbs	Chocolate Coons	18 doz
Sausages tinned	1	Cheese	17 lbs
Bacon	133 lbs	Meat Paste	3 jars
Fish Wet	56 stone	Fish Cakes	4 doz
Shell	1 gal.	Spaghetti	8 tins
Tinned	30	Cream	1 tin

FOOD

Inspection and Registration of Food Premises.

The increased attention given to the inspection of food premises in recent years was fully maintained in 1953, when no less than 1300 inspections were made.

Bacteriological sampling of milk etc.	45
Bakehouses	23
Butchers' Shops	76
Canteens, kitchens and cafes	54
Confectioners	16
Dairies	15
Examination of food stuffs	12
Food byelaws	10
Food and drug sampling	125
Food poisoning investigations	22
Food preparing premises	19
Food vehicles	14
Fried fish shops	21
Fruiterers and greengrocers	34
Grocery and provisions	136
Ice cream manufacturers	11
Ice cream vendors	120
Licensed premises	75
Other food premises	20
Slaughterhouses	410
Water sampling	42
	<hr/>
	1,300

Contraventions dealt with totalled 224 which included 143 in respect of licensed premises :-

(a) Accumulations removed	4
Cracked and chipped crockery replaced	3
Constant hot water provided	10
Dirty food vehicle cleansed	3
Faulty handling or wrapping improved	11
Inadequate handling of foodstuffs improved	4
Provision of refuse bins	6
Personal hygiene improved	2
Provision of food receptacles	4
Repairs effected	6
Rooms or equipment cleansed	8
Washing facilities provided	10
Sanitary accommodation improved	7
Ventilation improved	3
(b) Licensed premises :-	
Obsolete lead beer piping replaced with stainless steel	6
Bars redecorated	18

Structural improvements to bars and public rooms	20
Sinks provided or renewed	11
Trapped sink-wastes provided	5
New counter tops provided	6
Improvements to artificial lighting	4
Glass washing machines installed	4
Ventilation improved(Extractor fans 3, Natural 3)	6
Improved heating facilities provided	4
Cellars re-decorated	8
" floors re-paved	3
" open ceilings underdrawn	1
" new stairs provided	1
Sanitary accommodation - structural improvements	29
" " artificial lighting provided	9
" " completely rebuilt	2
" " flushing apparatus installed	6

Preparation, Sale and Storage of Food

Food, by reason of its composition, may become dangerous following infection by pathogenic bacteria. The supervision of food preparation premises is therefore of special importance in relation to the prevention of conditions which may give rise to outbreaks of food poisoning, and it is perhaps a reflection of the constant vigilance of the inspectors that there was a reduction in the number of food poisoning cases which could be attributed to food obtained from shops, restaurants or cafes.

Experience has shown that frequent inspections by experienced officers are essential in order to prevent deterioration of hygienic standards particularly where the management may be primarily concerned with output; even in the best conducted premises the inspectors' visits are helpful in securing the co-operation of the operatives in the maintenance of cleanly practice.

Complaints from the public about instances of unsatisfactory conditions in food premises reveal an increasing interest in food hygiene and have been helpful in the detection of sub-standard conditions which have in some cases escaped the notice of the inspectors, owing to pressure of other urgent duties.

Restaurants etc.

The issue of catering licences by the Ministry of Food continues to be subject to certification by the Health Department that the premises concerned conform to the requirements of the Food and Drugs Act. In the supervision of catering premises generally, the policy of the Department is designed to achieve proper hygienic practice by advisory and cautionary action in cases in which minor infringements of the relevant Acts and Byelaws occur. In one case, however, it was necessary to institute legal proceedings for serious contraventions of the Food and Drugs Act and Food Byelaws at Cafe premises. The offences included dirty utensils, kitchen and food preparation rooms and food contaminated by mice.

At the subsequent court proceedings fines of £35 were imposed and shortly afterwards the premises were reported to be under new management.

Food and Drugs Adulteration

Legal proceedings were instituted against a manufacturer of Lemon Squash which commodity was found to contain foreign matter; a fine of £3 was inflicted by the Court.

Legal proceedings were instituted against a firm of multiple grocers for retailing crumpets which were in a mouldy condition. A fine of £5 was imposed.

Cautions were sent respecting the undermentioned foods which failed to meet the requirements of the Act and Orders :-

One sample grapefruit crush)	Contained Sulphur Dioxide in excess of the 70 p.p.m. allowable in these drinks.
One sample Orange Crush)	
One sample Canadian Cheese	Discoloured and unpalatable due to spores from moulds in wrapper.

Metallic Contamination

Three unconnected samples of Iced Lollies contained lead in excess of the prescribed maximum suggested by the Metallic Contamination Sub-Committee of the Food Standards Committee. Immediately after the results of the Analyst's report were made known to the vendors, the particular consignment of Iced Lollies from which the samples had been taken were withdrawn from sale.

Ice Cream

During the year 10 "Certificates of Registration" were granted by the Council to various traders in the City, making a total of 104 Registered Premises since March 1949 - 102 for the sale of pre-packed ice cream and two for the manufacture of ice cream.

The Food Standards (Ice Cream) Amendment Order of 1952 came into operation on 7th July, 1952 and revised the standards for this food after that date. To comply with the Amendment Order, ice cream is required to contain not less than 4 per cent fat, 10 per cent sugar and 5 per cent milk solids other than fat, an alternative standard is permitted if the ice cream contains fruit, fruit pulp or fruit puree. A special standard is prescribed for Parev (Kosher) ice, sold under that description.

All the samples submitted for analysis proved satisfactory.

Details of samples submitted for the methylene blue test are set out as follows:-

<u>Ice Cream</u>				<u>Iced Lollies</u>			
Provisional Grade 1.		23		Provisional Grade 1.		7	
"	"	2.	7	"	"	2.	Nil
"	"	3.	1	"	"	3.	Nil
"	"	4.	Nil	"	"	4.	Nil

Inspection of Food Premises

The regular inspection of food premises has been carried out during the year. Shops, vehicles and premises dealing with the preparation, storage and retailing of food were kept under constant supervision.

Butchers' shops 42 visits
Other Food Shops and Premises 248 visits

Shops Act, 1912/1936, Section 10

Fifty eight shops in the City area were inspected during the year in connection with the heating, lighting and **ventilation** of the premises, the provision of adequate and convenient sanitary accommodation, facilities for meals and general cleanliness.

Several defects and contraventions were discovered and referred to the persons responsible. These matters received prompt attention and were dealt with informally.

Inspection of Schools

During the year a total of 10 inspections ~~were~~ made in connection with general repairs and annual cleansing. In all cases the work asked for was carried out.

Swimming Baths

Regular samples of water from 4 school swimming baths were submitted for Bacteriological Examination, the results of which were satisfactory.

Meat Inspection

The following table shows the percentage of carcasses and parts affected with Tuberculosis in comparison with other diseases :-

Carcasses Inspected and Condemned.

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep & Lambs	Pigs
Number Killed	1866	638	1874	6056	715
Number Inspected	1866	638	1874	6056	715

All Diseases except Tuberculosis	Beasts	Calves	Sheep	Pigs
Whole carcasses condemned	11	9	21	18
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	638	3	411	58
Percentages of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis	26%	0.6%	7%	11%
TUBERCULOSIS ONLY				
Whole carcasses condemned	13	1	-	1
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	233	1	-	22
Percentages of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	10%	0.1%	-	3%

(The above figures include cattle slaughtered under the Tuberculosis Order and Casualties)

Total weight of meat condemned 20 tons 5 cwt. 24 lbs.

The quality of meat is consistently high, being mainly well finished cattle suitable for a good residential trade. The amount of occasional slaughtering carried out on farm premises is not extensive, notice of slaughter being received as occasion arises.

There is no scheme of meat marking in force in the district under Part III of the Public Health (Meat) Regulations 1924.

During the year 280 visits were made to the slaughterhouse for the purpose of meat inspection.

Milk Supply

At the end of 1953 there were seven Cowkeepers on the register. The number of dairies and milk shops other than those belonging to Cowkeepers was six.

The visits of inspection made were 16.

Twenty eight samples of Pasteurised Milk were collected from Dairies in the District and submitted for Methylene Blue Reductase and Phosphatase tests.

DETAILS OF PASTEURISED MILK SAMPLES

No. of samples taken	Satisfied the Methylene Blue and Phosphatase tests.	Did not satisfy the Methylene Blue and Phosphatase tests.
28	28	--

FACTORIES ACTS 1937 AND 1948

Part I of the Act

1. Inspections for the purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors.)

Premises	Number on Register.	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sects. 1, 2, 3,4, & 6, are to be enforced by Local Authorities	202	28	19	---
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Sect. 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	71	22	9	---
(iii) Other premises in which Sect. 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers premises)	3	--	---	---
TOTAL	276	50	28	----

2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found.

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found.				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted.
	Found	Remedied	To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S. 1)	16	16	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S. 2)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (S. 3)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (S. 4)	4	4	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (S. 6)	1	1	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (S. 7)					
(a) insufficient	1	1	-	1	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	5	5	-	1	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	1	1	-	1	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork).	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	28	28	-	3	-

Outworkers

The lists received from employers in the City revealed that 14 firms employed a total of 31 outworkers.

All outwork reported was the class of work specified under the Act as "making, cleaning, washing, ornamenting, altering, finishing, and repairing of wearing apparel". Inspections have been made in all premises reported and no instances were found where homework was being carried on in unwholesome premises.

Other matters

Instances of failure to affix abstract dealt with One
 Number of underground bakehouses on register at end of year Nil

Rodent Control

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949

The following measures of control were taken during the 15 months ended 31st March 1954.

	Type of Property				
	Local Authority	Dwelling Houses	Agri-cultural	All other (including Business & Industrial)	Total
I. Total number of Properties in Local Authority's District.	42	7158	20	1338	8558
II. Number of properties inspected by the Local Authority during the 15 months ended 31st March 1954 as a result of (a) notification (b) survey under the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act 1949 (c) otherwise, e.g., when visited primarily for some other purpose	(a) --	372	--	28	400
	(b) 6	5340	12	1044	6402
	(c) 1	7	--	11	19
III. Number of properties (under II) found to be infested by rats.	Major 2	--	--	--	2
	Minor 4	600	8	192	804
IV. Number of properties (under II) found to be seriously infested by mice.	1	48	--	26	75
V. Number of infested properties (under III & IV) treated by the Local Authority.	8	672	9	216	905
VI. Number of notices served under Section 4 :-					
(1) Treatment	--	--	--	--	--
(2) Structural Works (i.e. Proofing)	1	15	--	7	23
VII. Number of cases in which default action was taken by Local Authority following issue of notice under Section 4.	--	--	--	--	--
VIII. Legal Proceedings	--	--	--	--	--
IX. Number of "block" control schemes carried out.	300				

The number of dead rats that were collected totalled 876. The estimated kill was 3,250.

Poison used - Z.P. Arsinious Oxide and Bread Mash.

Summary of Block Control undertaken during the year

A total of 4,046 premises were inspected during the year when 300 treatments, either partial or complete were carried out.

Partial treatments consisted of test baiting on premises where evidence of rodent activities were found. Where baits showed a 'no take' the treatments were discontinued.

The estimated kill was 1,684 rats.

In addition to the above, schools, hospitals, the Hants. Constabulary H.Q. and other large properties, making a total of 10 in all were treated.

The estimated kill was 150 rats.

Sewer Treatment

The following figures have been supplied by the Rodent Officer :-

Time taken to complete : 5 weeks (1 week 10 per cent. pre-baiting 4 weeks maintenance treatment).

Treatment using Zinc Phosphide and Arsenic

Manholes lifted	330
Total bait taken	43
Total bait not taken	287
Poison baits laid	65
Poison baits not taken	39
No. of bodies found	2
Estimated kill	40

Administration

The Prevention of Damage by Pests Act 1949, requires occupiers to notify the Local Authority should their premises or land become infested with rats or mice in substantial numbers. In order to meet these obligations two full-time rodent staff are employed in a continuous survey of the City, in addition to investigations and inspections arising from notifications and complaints about infestations.

The rodent staff also carry out destruction measures in the City sewers in accordance with the requirements of the Ministry.

It is evident that the rodent operational facilities have become widely known to the public and this is reflected in complaints and requests for technical advice and assistance in ridding premises of rodent infestation.

Infested dwelling houses in the City are dealt with free of cost but where an infestation is of a casual nature and the occupiers are capable of

carrying out instructions intelligently, advice is given concerning the measures necessary. Owners or occupiers of business premises are given free advice as to best methods to adopt for the destruction of rodents on their premises or land, but if the Corporation's staff is employed the full cost of treatment is charged.

Use of "Warfarin"

This is a new rodenticide which is said to work in an entirely different way from other poisons used in connection with rodent control. It was originally produced at the Wisconsin Alumni Research Foundation and its action depends upon its coagulant properties. Rodents that feed on baits containing minute quantities of warfarin, over a period of three to fourteen days, die from spontaneous internal haemorrhage. It possesses an additional advantage of not being dangerous to domestic animals so far as a small single dose is concerned and may be left down for varying periods according to rate of take by the rats. This constitutes a tremendous safety factor when dealing with rodent infestations in food establishments, institutions, schools, etc. Its human toxicity, however, still necessitates strict precautions in use.

"Cymag" gassing

Numerous complaints were received of rats infesting both banks of the River Itchen between Durngate Mill and Wharf Mill. With the assistance of rubber waders during low water periods the operators were able to reach the main sources of infestation and treated the rat-holes with "Cymag" gas. Holes which could not be reached in this way were pre-baited and subsequently poison baits (Zinc Phosphide) were laid. A similar technique was employed when dealing with rat infestations found in the railway embankments in various parts of the town.

The results were very satisfactory.

Preventive measures and works of proofing were carried out as a result of co-ordinated action by the Sanitary Inspectors and rodent control staff during or following the process of disinfection.

Eradication of Bed Bugs, etc.

Five premises were successfully treated by the Public Health Department for Bed Bug Infestation and five premises for Flea Infestation.

EXAMINATION OF DRAINS

During the year under review it was found necessary to carry out 66 drain tests and serve 34 informal notices on owners of property for the repair of drains or other appliances.

When examinations reveal drainage defects the information so obtained provides the basis for service of notices upon owners under Section 39, of the Public Health Act.

The complaints which gave rise to the 66 examinations of drains related to flooding of cellars, yards and sub-floor space of dwelling houses, subsidence in yards and passages at points which follow the probable course of the drains.

Notification of Infectious Diseases and Food Poisoning during 1953.

Disease	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apl.	May.	Jun.	Jul.	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total
Scarlet Fever	3	1	5	5	1	2		2		2	2	4	27
Whooping Cough	16	1	14	10	3	2						2	48
Acute Poliomyelitis Paralytic							2						2
Acute Poliomyelitis Non-Paralytic									1				1
Measles	274	198	137	6	3	6				1			625
Ac. Pneumonia	1	4	1			1					2		9
Dysentery								4					4
Acute encephalitis Infective			1	2								1	4
Acute encephalitis Post-Infectious	1							1					2
Meningococcal infection	2		1	1		1				1			6
Food Poisoning							1	133					134
Puerperal Pyrexia	4	3	1				9	5		3	2		27
Ophthalmia neonatorum							2	1	5	5	1		14
TOTALS	301	207	160	24	7	12	14	146	6	12	7	7	903

Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) during the year 1953

Disease	Total cases notified	Under 1 year	1-2 years	2-3 years	3-4 years	4-5 years	5-10 years	10-15 years	15-20 years	20-35 years	35-45 years	45-65 years	65 years & over	Cases admitted to hospital
Scarlet Fever	27	-	-	1	3	3	12	6	1	1	-	-	-	12
Whooping Cough	48	3	8	4	8	6	15	2	1	-	1	-	-	-
Acute Poliomyelitis Paralytic	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	2
Acute Poliomyelitis Non-Paralytic	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
Measles	625	18	44	58	67	74	316	20	19	5	2	2	-	4
Ac. pneumonia	9	1	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	3	3	4
Dysentery	4	-	1	2	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	4
Acute encephalitis Infective	4	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	2	-	-	-	4
Acute encephalitis Post-infectious	2	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Meningococcal infection	6	2	1	-	2	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	5
Food Poisoning	134	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	133	1
Puerperal Pyrexia	27	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	21	4	-	-	25
Ophthalmia neonatorum	14	14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	14

TUBERCULOSIS

New cases and mortality during 1953

Age	New Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Under 1 year	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 to 5 years	2	3	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 to 15 years	1	1	1	1	-	-	-	-
15 to 25 years	2	5	-	-	-	-	-	1
25 to 35 years	3	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
35 to 45 years	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-
45 to 55 years	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
55 to 65 years	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
65 and upwards	2	1	-	-	1	-	-	-
TOTAL	11	11	2	2	2	1	-	1

Sex	No. of cases of Tuberculosis on Register at commencement of year		No. of cases of Tuberculosis on Register at end of year	
	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary
Male	73	10	77	11
Female	50	19	56	15
TOTAL	123	29	133	26

Removals from Register during year :-

Reason for Removal	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M	F	M	F
Died	2	1	-	3
Removed from District	5	4	1	3
Cured	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	7	5	1	6

No action was necessary during the year under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925 (relating to persons suffering from Pulmonary Tuberculosis employed in the Milk Trade) or under Section 172 of the Public Health Act, 1936 (relating to the compulsory removal to Hospital of persons suffering from Tuberculosis).

Diphtheria Immunisation

The response to Diphtheria Immunisation can be said to be generally satisfactory, the monthly clinic which is held for this purpose being still well attended.

Number of children inoculated against Diphtheria during 1953 is as follows:-

Age under 5 years 257
Age between 5 .. 15 years..... 28
Reinforcing dose 343

The Registrar General has ceased to provide figures of the child population under 15 years of age, accordingly it is impossible to estimate the percentage of children immunised. The number is, however, well maintained and 4339 children are recorded as having been immunised.

F—METEOROLOGICAL REPORT, 1953

MONTHS	Barometer	Temperature			Hygrometer		Rainfall		Sunshine	Wind (Days)										
	Mean Pressure at Station Level 128 feet above M.S.L.	Highest Maximum	Lowest Minimum	Average Maximum	Average Minimum	Mean of obs. at 9 a.m. Dry bulb Wet bulb	Degree of Hum. Sat. = 100	No. of Days when Rain fell	Total Amount (inches)	Number of hours and tenths	N.	N.E.	E.	S.E.	S.	S.W.	W.	N.W.		
January	..	29.99	55	22	42.5	31.6	36.4	35.6	93.3	10	.90	41.6	1	1	—	1	5	5	3	15
February	..	29.93	59	18	45.4	32.6	37.2	36.6	95.0	11	2.03	73.0	5	3	—	—	4	6	3	7
March	..	30.25	68	22	53.5	30.5	39.7	38.5	88.8	8	.65	130.6	3	9	—	3	—	5	2	9
April	..	29.75	68	27	55.5	38.7	45.6	44.0	87.5	17	2.40	173.3	1	11	1	—	2	10	2	3
May	..	29.95	83	28	64.5	45.5	54.1	52.4	88.9	14	2.32	206.0	4	8	—	6	6	4	1	2
June	..	29.87	80	36	67.0	48.5	56.7	55.4	91.9	18	1.91	156.1	2	8	—	2	3	7	1	7
July	..	29.86	76	45	68.9	51.9	59.8	58.4	91.9	23	3.39	183.6	1	1	—	1	4	17	4	3
August	..	29.99	82	39	71.2	51.4	60.8	58.9	89.2	13	2.31	219.9	—	—	—	3	3	16	2	7
September	..	29.86	76	41	65.8	46.5	53.9	52.9	93.8	16	2.65	146.9	1	4	—	3	3	11	3	5
October	..	29.95	70	30	59.1	46.8	49.1	48.3	94.4	15	4.60	104.5	3	7	—	3	—	5	2	11
November	..	29.99	59	27	53.2	40.0	45.9	45.3	95.4	19	1.34	46.3	2	1	—	6	5	13	—	3
December	..	29.97	59	28	50.3	39.2	43.8	43.4	96.8	12	.83	32.8	5	6	—	4	1	8	2	5
Year 1953	..	29.95	83	18	58.1	41.9	48.6	47.5	92.2	176	25.33	1514.6	28	59	1	32	36	107	25	77